Present retail price structure of Diesel at Delhi as on 29-7-2005

SI. No.	Particulars	Rs./Litre
1	Price without Customs Duty, Excise duty and sales tax components	18.37
2.1	Custom Duty (@ 10% included in RTP) Based on RTPs applicable for 2nd fortnight of July'05	1.99 (7%)
2.2	Excise Duty (levied @ 8%+Rs. 3.25/litre plus 2% education cess there on)	4.93 (17%)
2.3	Sales Tax (incl. Irrecoverable taxes)	3.16 (11%)
2.4	Total of Customs Duty, Excise Duty and Sales tax components	10.08 (35%)
3	Retail Selling Price at Delhi (1+5)	28.45

*Figures in brackets give the components of customs duty, excise duty and sales taxes a % of SI. No. 1.

Scheme for tour operators and travel agents

927. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has a scheme of approving travel agents and tour operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof such as criteria of according approval, qualifications and experience prescribed for applicants etc.; and

(c) what precautions are being taken by Government to ensure that tour operators and travel agents do not blur the image of India with foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guidelines relating to approval of travel agents and tour operators are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) A Complaint Cell has been set up in the Ministry of Tourism to redress complaints from tourists. On receipt of specific complaints against tour operators and travel agents, the matter is investigated and appropriate action taken based on the findings.

Statement

Guidelines for recognition as approved Travel Agents & Tour Operators

The following conditions must be fulfilled by the Travel Agency for grant of recognition by Ministry of Tourism:

(i) The application for grant of recognition shall be in the prescribed form and submitted in duplicate with a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3000/-

(ii) The Travel Agency has a minimum paid-up capital (or capital employed) of Rs. 3.00 lakhs duly supported by the audited balance sheet/Chartered Accountant's Certificate.

(iii) The Travel Agency should be approved by International Air Transport Association (IATA) or should be General Sales Agent (GSA)/ Passenger Sales Agent (PSA) of an IATA member Airlines.

(iv) The Travel Agency should have been in operation for a minimum period of one year before the date of application.

(v) The minimum office space should be 250 sq. ft. besides, the office may be located in a neat and clean surrounding and equipped with telephone, fax and computer reservation system etc. There should be sufficient space for reception and easy access to toilet facilities.

(vi) The Travel Agency should be under the charge of a full time member who is adeouately trained, experienced in matters regarding ticketing, itineraries, transport, accommodation facilities, currency, customs regulations and travel and tourism related services. Besides this, greater emphasis may be given to effective communication skills, knowledge of foreign languages, other than English. There should be minimum of four qualified staff out of which at least two should have Diploma/Degree in Travel and Tourism from recognised University, IITTM or Institutions approved by AICTE.

The academic qualifications may be relaxed in case of exceptionally experienced personnel in Airlines, Shipping, Transport and PR agencies, Hotel and other Corporate Bodies and those who have worked for 3 years with IATA/UFTA Agencies.

The academic qualifications may also be relaxed in cases where the travel agency companies are located at North-east, religious, remote and small cities. There should be a minimum of two qualified staff.

(vii) The Travel Agency is an income-tax assessee and has filed Income Tax Return for the current assessment year.

(viii) The Travel Agency should employee only Regional guides trained and licensed by the Department of Tourism, Government of India and State Level guides as well as local guides approved by State Governments.

(ix) For outsourcing any of the services relating to tourists, the travel agencies shall use approved specialised agencies in the specific field of activity.

The Tour Operator must fulfill the following conditions for grant of recognition:

(i) The application for grant of recognition shall be in the prescribed form and submitted in duplicate with a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3000/-.

(ii) The Tour operator should have a minimum paid-up capital (or capital employed) of Rs. 3.00 lakhs duly supported by the latest audited balance sheet/Chartered Accountant's Certificate.

(iii) The turn-over in terms of foreign exchange by the firm from tour operation only should be a minimum of Rs. 10.00 lakhs duly supported by-Chartered Accountant's Certificate.

(iv) The Tour Operator has an office under the charge of a full time member of their staff, who is adequately trained/experienced in matters regarding transport, accommodation, currency, customs regulatios and general information about travel and tourism related services. However, greater emphasis may be given to effective communication skills and knowledge of foreign language other than English.

(v) There should be a minimum of four qualified staff out of which at least two should have Diploma/Degree in Travel and Tourism from recognised University, IITTM or an institution approved by AICTE.

(vi) The academic qualifications may be relaxed in case of experienced personnel in Airlines, Shipping, Transport, PR Agencies, Hotels and other corporate bodies and those who have 2 years experience with Department of Tourism approved tour operators.

(vii) Similarly, for the agencies located at North-east, religious, remote and small cities, there should be a minimum of two qualified staff.

(viii) The Tour Operator should have been in Operation for a minimum period of one year before the date of application.

(ix) The minimum office space should be of 250 sq. ft. besides the office may be located in neat and clean surroundings and equipped with telephone, fax and computer reservation system etc. There should be sufficient space for reception and easy access to toilets.

(x) The Tour Operator should be an income tax assessee and should have filed Income Tax Returns for the last or current assessment year.

(xi) Tour Operator should employ only Regional Guides trained and licensed by the Department of Tourism, Government of India and State level Guides approved by the State Governments.

(xii) The Tour Operator shall contract/use approved specialised agencies in the field of adventure options and related services for the tourists.

Promotion of tourism industry

928. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has done any study analysing scope of making the tourism industry more attractive for domestic and global tourists during 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of various steps taken during 2004-05 to make tourism industry more attractive?